

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended): A method of preparing a self-supporting bag, comprising:
molding a main body of the self-supporting bag, including a body portion and a
bottom portion;

folding the main body of the self-supporting bag, including the body portion and the
bottom portion, such that the bottom portion is parallel to the body portion and the self-
supporting bag is flat; and

folding the folded self-supporting bag by standing up both side portions of the body
portion and the bottom portion in a width direction while center portions of the body portion
and the bottom portion remain flat such that the self-supporting bag is L-shaped on both of
the side portions to maintain the self-supporting bag in a folded state,

wherein the body portion includes a front surface such that, when the bag is folded by
standing up both side portions of the body portion, a left side of the front surface faces a right
side of the front surface with a center portion of the front surface located between the left side
and the right side, and

wherein the main body is comprised of synthetic resin.

2. (Previously Presented): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according
to claim 1, wherein the folding the main body includes folding the bottom portion into two
toward an inner side of the body portion so as to fold the bottom portion in parallel to the
body portion.

3. (Previously Presented): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according
to claim 1, wherein the folding the main body includes folding the bottom portion into two

toward an outer side of the body portion so as to fold the bottom portion in parallel to the body portion.

4. (Previously Presented): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 1, further comprising:

a maintaining means for maintaining the folded state of the bag's main body.

5. (Withdrawn): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 1, wherein a pouring port is formed in the bag's main body, and the self-supporting bag is provided with an air communication passage forming portion for making an intrusion of an ambient air into an inner portion of the bag's main body, at a time of pouring contents from the pouring port formed in the bag's main body.

6. (Withdrawn): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 5, wherein a pouring port forming portion and the air communication passage forming portion are arranged in parallel in the bag's main body, and the pouring port and an air communication passage are formed in parallel.

7. (Withdrawn): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 5, wherein a hanging hole forming portion is provided in the bag's main body, and an air communication passage forming portion is provided between an upper edge portion of the bag's main body and the hanging hole forming portion.

8. (Withdrawn): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 5, wherein the air communication passage forming portion forms an air communication passage,

and a communication port communicating an intermediate portion of the air communication passage with an inner portion of the bag's main body.

9. (Currently Amended): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 1, further comprising:

unfolding the bag from the folded state to an unfolded state; and

after the unfolding, filling the bag's main body with at least one of a surface active agent or a solvent as a component.

10. (Previously Presented): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 1, wherein the body portion includes two side surfaces and the folding the main body includes folding each of the two side surfaces into two toward an outer side of the body portion so as to fold the body portion in parallel to the bottom portion.

11. (Previously Presented): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 1, wherein the body portion includes two side surfaces and the folding the main body includes folding each of the two side surfaces into two toward an inner side of the body portion so as to fold the body portion in parallel to the bottom portion.

12. (Previously Presented): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 1, wherein the folding the folded self-supporting bag includes standing up both of the side portions of the body portion and the bottom portion in the width direction such that the side portions extend in a direction perpendicular to a central portion of the main body.

13. (Currently Amended): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 1, wherein the body portion includes [[a]] the front surface and a back surface and the front surface is attached via fusion bonding to the back surface along a top edge of the main body to form a charging portion, and

the method further comprises:

opening the charging portion;

filling the self-supporting bag with a component via the charging portion; and

after the filling, sealing the charging portion via heat sealing or ultrasonic sealing.

14. (Previously Presented): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 13, further comprising:

pouring the component from the self-supporting bag via a pouring port that is separate from the charging portion.

15. (Previously Presented): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 4, wherein the maintaining means includes at least one convex portion on the body portion and at least one concave portion on the body portion to be engaged and disengaged with the convex portion.

16. (Previously Presented): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 4, wherein the maintaining means includes at least one convex portion on the bottom portion and at least one concave portion on the bottom portion to be engaged and disengaged with the convex portion.

17. (Previously Presented): The method of preparing a self-supporting bag according to claim 4, wherein the maintaining means includes a hot melt on the bottom portion and the hot melt adheres a first side of the bottom portion to a second side of the bottom portion.

18. (Currently Amended): A method of preparing a self-supporting bag, comprising:
molding a main body of the self-supporting bag, including a body portion and a bottom portion;

folding the main body of the self-supporting bag, including the body portion and the bottom portion, such that the bottom portion is parallel to the body portion and the self-supporting bag is flat; and

folding the folded self-supporting bag by standing up both side portions of [[the]] the body portion and the bottom portion in a width direction while center portions of the body portion and the bottom portion remain flat such that the support bag is L-shaped on both of the side portions to maintain the self-supporting bag in a folded state,

wherein the body portion includes a front surface such that, when the bag is folded by standing up both side portions of the body portion, a left side of the front surface faces a right side of the front surface with a center portion of the front surface located between the left side and the right side.